

Patent Claims

1. A method for improving a load distribution in a signaling network having a plurality of message transfer parts (MTP) and associated signaling line groups (LSx), composed of steps:
- a) desired destination addresses (DPC) are defined;
  - b) n signaling line groups (LSx) which are to be used in m actual routes (CRy) to the destination addresses (DPC) are defined, and  $n \times m$  associated route meters ( $C(LSx,y)$ ) are initialized;
  - c) n setpoint meter readings ( $Csetp(LSx)$ ) are calculated for each of the n signaling line groups (LSx);
  - d)  $n \times m$  relative deviations (Delta Crel ( $LSx,y$ )) from the respective n setpoint meter readings ( $Csetp(LSx)$ ) are calculated for each of the  $n \times m$  route meters ( $C(LSx,y)$ );
  - e) m route meters ( $C(LSx,y)$ ) with the greatest relative deviations (Delta Crel ( $LSx,y$ )) are determined for different signaling line groups (LSx); and
  - f) m signaling line groups (LSx) are assigned to the m actual routes (CRy) in accordance with the determined m route meters ( $C(LSx,y)$ ), and affected route meters ( $C(LSx,y)$ ) are adapted.
2. The method as claimed in patent claim 1, characterized in that the step c) comprises the steps:
- c1) n sums are calculated by adding the values of the m route meters ( $C(LSx,y)$ ) for each signaling line group (LSx); and
  - c2) the n sums are divided by the number m of actual routes (CRy).
3. The method as claimed in patent claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the step d) comprises the steps:

d1) the  $n \times m$  absolute deviations ( $\Delta C(LSx,y)$ ) are calculated by subtracting the values of the  $n \times m$  route meters ( $C(LSx,y)$ ) from the values of the associated  $n$  setpoint meter readings ( $C_{setp}(LSx)$ ); and

5 d2) the  $n \times m$  relative deviations ( $\Delta C_{rel}(LSx,y)$ ) are calculated by dividing the calculated absolute deviations ( $\Delta C(LSx,y)$ ) by the values of the associated  $n$  setpoint meter readings ( $C_{setp}(LSx)$ ).

10 4. The method for improving a load distribution as claimed in one of patent claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the step f) the adaptation of the affected route meters ( $C(LSx,y)$ ) comprises the steps:

15 f1) the value of the determined route meter ( $C(LSx,y)$ ) is incremented when the signaling line groups ( $LSx$ ) are defined for the first time, and

f2) the value of the route meter associated with the determined route meter ( $C(LSx,y)$ ) is additionally decremented when the signaling line groups ( $LSx$ ) are defined again.

20 5. The method for improving a load distribution in a signaling network having a plurality of message transfer parts (MTP) and associated signaling line groups ( $LSx$ ) comprising the steps:

a) desired destination addresses (DPC) are defined;

25 b) signaling line groups ( $LSz$ ) which can be used in possible routes ( $PRz$ ) to the destination addresses (DPC) instead of a failed or a newly available signaling line group are defined, and associated summation meters ( $C_{Sum}(LSx)$ ) which represent a number 30 of signaling line groups in actual routes ( $CRxy$ ) to all the defined destination addresses (DPC) are defined;

c) each of the defined signaling line groups ( $LSx$ ) is checked to determine whether it is available and/or permitted as an actual route ( $CRy$ ) to the defined 35 destination addresses;

- d) the summation meters ( $C_{Sum}(LSx)$ ) are read out for all the defined signaling line groups if the result in step c) is positive;
- e) the signaling line groups ( $LSx$ ) for the respective destination addresses whose associated summation meters ( $C_{Sum}(LSx)$ ) have the smallest value are selected;
- f) the selected signaling line groups ( $LSx$ ) are assigned to the actual routes ( $CRy$ ) for the respective destination addresses; and
- 10 g) the values of the affected summation meters ( $C_{Sum}(LSx)$ ) are adapted.

6. The method as claimed in patent claim 5, characterized in that in step g) the adaptation of the affected summation meters ( $C_{Sum}(LSx)$ ) constitute an incrementation of the summation meter with the smallest sum and a decrementation of the summation meter for the failed or the newly available signaling line group.

7. A method for improving a load distribution in a signaling network having a plurality of message transfer parts (MTP) and associated signaling line groups ( $LSx$ ) composed of the combination of the method as claimed in patent claim 5 or 6 for selecting an actual route, and the method as claimed in one of patent claims 1 to 4 for setting up an actual route.

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